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ABSTRACT

Designed to develop and to share information and resources on child abuse and neglect, child welfare, and youth services in Region VIII (Colorado, Utah, Wyoming, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Montana), the Family Resource Center, a federally funded two year program, has developed a directory containing names, addresses, phone numbers and services offered for tribes represented in Region VIII; tribal programs by state; Indian centers; and Bureau of Indian Affairs area offices. Other information includes a map of Region VIII; a brief explanation of tribal programs; examples of tribal use of language for such terms as child welfare, extended family, adoption, and love; the Chippewa Cree Tribal Code as an example of tribal codes and regulations used by the tribes in developing their programs; and a case study of the Sisseton-Wahpeton Sioux Tribal Child Protection Program as a model for other tribes. (ERB)

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REGION VIII

Family Resource Center

Graduate School of Social Work
University of Denver

RC014968

REGION VIII FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER

Graduate School of Social Work
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Denver, Colorado 80208

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AMERICAN INDIAN TRIBAL PROGRAMS IN CHILD WELFARE IN REGION VIII

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April, 1984

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INTRODUCTION

The Family Resource Center is a federally funded two year program designed to develop and to share information and resources on child abuse and neglect, child welfare, and youth services in Region VIII consisting of the states of: Colorado, Utah, Wyoming, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Montana.

This region is unique in that several tribes reside in this geographic area. The Center would like to recognize this unique character by developing this resource of lists of tribes and their child welfare programs.

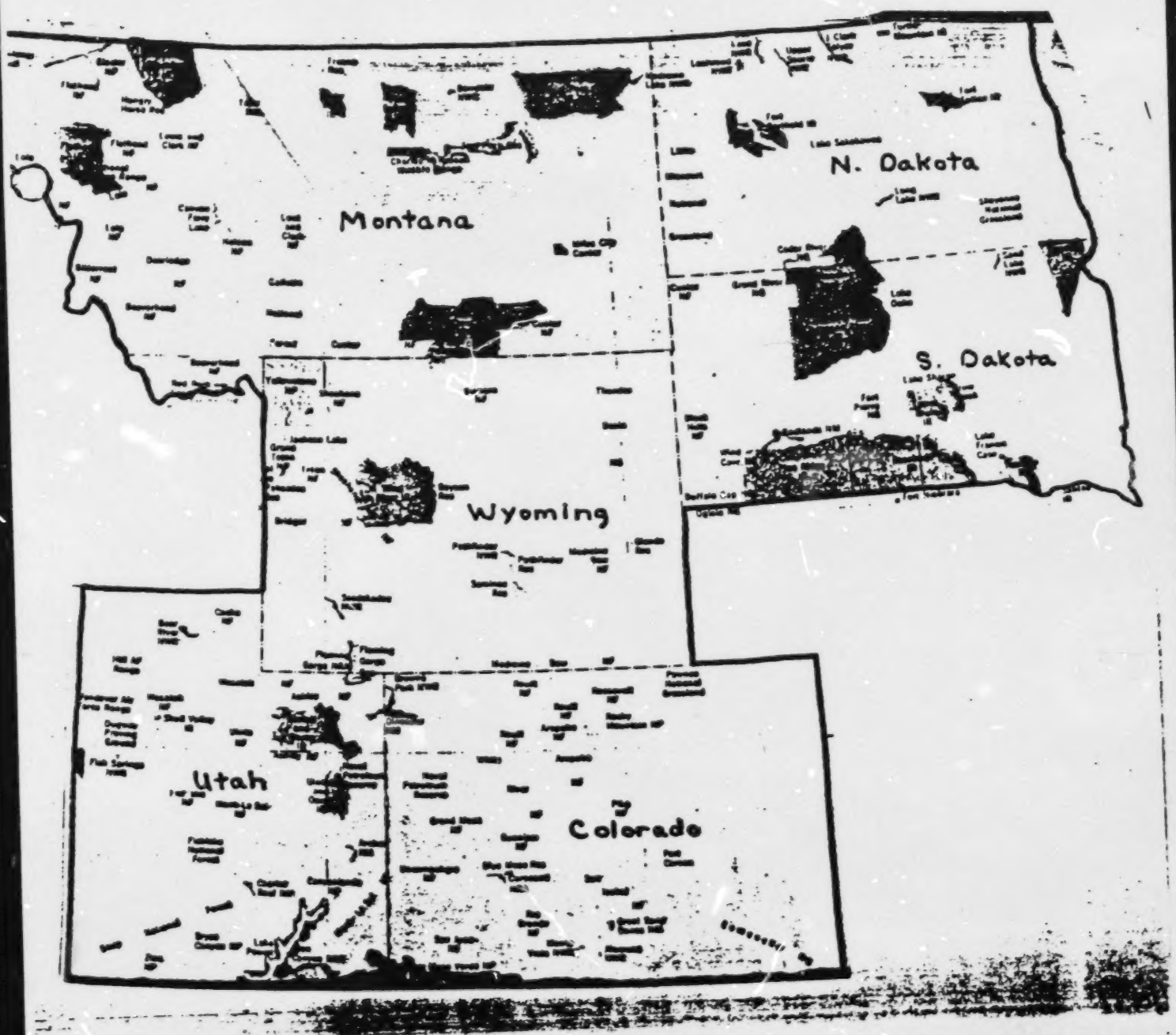
The purpose of this listing of tribes is to give information on each tribe to states, to tribes, and other program providers in the area.

This listing of tribal programs is not inclusive of all tribal social services but is geared towared programs focusing on children and their families.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Family Resource Center would like to give thanks and appreciation to the various tribes, social service offices, state offices and many individuals who made this listing possible with their information and patience.

Region VIII



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Understanding Tribal Programs:

In the U.S.A. there are approximately 300 reservations covering about 52.4 million acreas in 27 states. A little more than half of the Indian population lives on or near reservations. Only 140 reservations have only tribally owned land.

There are 1.4 million Indians in the U.S.A. which comprise .6% of the total population. Almost 45% of Indians are under age 18. In the 1980 census there are 1,418,195 American Indians and Alaska natives. There is an increased birthrate, improved health conditions, and a greater likelihood of people identifying themselves as Indians as compared to the 1070 census record.

Issues regarding Indian Programs:

The major service delivery system to tribes is the functioning and intact extended family or clan system which is the informal structure to provide child care, support, and emotional support in times of crises. When this social-economic system is not available for various reasons then the person will reach out to formal structures that exist in the community. One of the major resources is the Bureau of Indian Affairs which is part of the Department of Interior in the U.S.A government. The B.I.A. has 12,200 permanent employees, 75% of who are Indian. The B.I.A. is charged with administering the lands and money held in trust for Indian tribes, administering boarding schools, maintaining roads, and providing social services as related to the government's treaty obligations to tribes as a separate government. In 1983 the B.I.A. budget was about one billion dollars. The budget has decreased due to federal cutbacks in all programs. The country is divided into areas which have B.I.A. offices for each section. In Region VIII there are three areas which share the various responsiblities: Aberdeen, Montana; Sioux Falls, South Dakota; and Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Tribes operate as individual governments with a separate form of government, tribal council, and laws which regulate their functioning. Due to the overlay of the trust relationship with the U.S.A. in forms of treaties and agreements the tribal-political and legal structures are very complex jursdictionally. Each tribe should be seen as an individual unit form of self government. Each tribe has various forms of monetary support: government, state, county, and private funds from tribal projects. The tribes decide what programs will be implimented depending on their unique community needs and develop a tribal budget with administrative concurrance from the tribal council.

The B.I.A. has certain eligibility criteria for clients in order to get services:

1. a resident of the reservation
2. eligible for tribal membership or the child of a member
3. at least 1/4 degree Indian blood
4. a member of a tribe and resident of an urban area officially designated by the tribal government as "on or near" their reservation (these are legal definitions)

The major form of service in social service is general assistance and child welfare. Under child welfare are: foster care and institutional care for Indian children. In 1978 various unmet needs were cited:

1. The need for services to children in foster care and their families around placement services.
2. Family intervention and treatment to prevent breakup of families-at-risk.
3. Providing treatment to children resulting in court action
4. Further implimentation of the Education for all-handicapped Act.
5. Increased training of workers
6. Increased monies to provide increased services to children and their families.

In some tribes the B.I.A. has implimented the tribal contracts in order for tribes to impliment their own social service programs. The tribes who contract for their own services must meet B.I.A. eligibility manual requirements.

The B.I.A. has contracts with private insitutions and state to provide other services such as: adult care, services to emotional distrubed, and handicapped children/ or foster care in ome cases depending on the tribal child welfare system. Each tribal program is very different and unique as to what programs they provide to their tribal community.

The other major service delivery system is the Indian Health Service (I.H.S.) which offer comprehensive health service to Indian people. This system also has requirements similiar to B.I.A. The I.H.S. community support services are: medical care, health education, and dental care. These services again vary depending on which service area one is looking at.

Many tribes are implimenting the mandates of the Indian Child Welfare Act. This Act has some monies for child welfare grants to tribes. The grants are given on an annual bases with separate grants needing to be completed each funding cycle. The average rate of the grants are around $20,000 per tribe. With the provision of tribes designing their own programs the families and children will benefit from tribally controlled programs. This allows the tribes to determine their own programs and own needs and institute appropriate programs with decisions made by tribal members and not outsiders.

Each tribe in this region were contacted and asked to provide the Family Resource Center with information on their child welfare program. As indicated in the program reviews each tribe provides different services depending on their community need and resources.

This is a listing of child welfare programs in Region VIII and due to the level of change at the tribal level this list will always be developing and ongoing.

Credits:Rocky Mountain News, May 2, 1983, statistics

State-Tribal Intergovernmental Project, Zigmond Maciekowick,April, 1983, "Development of Program Services"

LIST OF TRIBES IN REGION VIII

State: COLORADO

Name of Reservation:	Name of Tribe:
1. Southern Ute	Mouache and Capote
2. Ute Mountain	Wiminuche Ute

State: MONTANA

Name of Reservation:	Name of Tribe:
1. Crow	Crow
2. Flathead	Salish and Kootenai
3. Fort Peck	Assiniboin Sioux and Sioux
4. Northern Cheyenne	Northern Cheyenne
5. Rocky Boy	Chippewa Cree

State: NORTH DAKOTA

Name of Reservation:	Name of Tribe:
1. Fort Berthold	(Three affiliated:) Mandan, Arikara, Hidatsa
2. Fort Totten	Devils Lake Sioux
3. Standing Rock	Standing Rock Sioux
4. Turtle Mountain	Chippewa

* Alphabetical order by State

State: South Dakota

Name of Reservation:	Name of Tribe:
1. Cheyenne River	Sioux
2. Crow Creek	Sioux
3. Flandreau	Flandreau and Sontee Sioux
4. Lower Brule	Sioux
5. Pine Ridge	Oglala Sioux
6. Rosebud	Rosebud Sioux
7. Sisseton-Wahpeton	S-W Sioux
8. Yankton	Sioux

State: Utah

Name of Reservation:	Name of Tribe:
1. Goshute	Goshute
2. Navajo Nation	Navajo
3. Skull Valley	Goshute
4. Southern Paiute	Southern Paiute
5. Uintah	Ute
6. Ouray	Ute

State: Wyoming

Name of Reservation:	Name of Tribe:
1. Wind River	Arapahoe and Shoshone

State: Colorado

Reservation: Southern Ute

Tribe: Mouache and Capote

Address: Southern Ute Indian Tribe
Tribal Affairs - Building 8
PO Box 737
Ignacio, Colorado 81137

Phone: (303) 563-4525

Name of Program: Tribal Social Services

Services Offered: family services, counseling, general assistance, foster care, prevention of child abuse and neglect with a child protection team, coordinated with the county of Durango Social Services

State: Colorado

Reservation; Ute Mountain

Tribe: Wiminuche

Address: Ute Mountain Ute
Tribal Social Services
Tribal Office Building
Tawaoc, Colorado 81134

Phone: (303) 565-3751 X266

Name of Program: Ute Tribal Social Services

Services Offered: general assistance, wic, foster care, guardian ad liteum, health care, day care, head start coordinates with other tribal programs to serve entire family and crisis intervention.

State: Montana

Reservation; Crow

Tribe: Crow

Address: B.I.A. - Crow Agency

Crow, Montana 59022

Phone: (406) 638-2630

Name of Program: B.I.A. Social Services

Services Offered: General assistance, head start foster care, prevention with child protection team

State: Montana

Reservation; Flathead

Tribe: Salish and Kootenai

Address: Tribal Social Services

Box 278

Pablo, Montana 59855

Phone: (406) 675-4600

Name of Program: Family Counseling Unit

Services Offered: foster parent recruitment, foster parent training, licensing of foster parents, parenting classes, counseling to families protective services, adoptions.

State: Montana

Reservation: Fort Peck

Tribe: Assiniboin Sioux

Address: Fort Peck Agency
Box 637
Poplar, Montana 59255

Phone: (406) 768-5311

Name of Program: B.I.A. - Social Services

Services Offered: Head start, licensing of foster homes, protective services, group home care, general assistance, commodities.

State: Montana

Reservation: Northern Cheyenne River

Tribe: Northern Cheyenne

Address: B.I.A. - Northern Cheyenne Tribe
Box 128
Lame Deer, Montana 59043

Phone: (406) 477-8321 or 477-6211

Name of Program: Indian Child Welfare Program

Services Offered: Day care, youth shelter, foster care, adoption, Head start, and

State: Montana

Reservation; Rocky Boy

Tribe: Chippewa-Cree

Address: Rocky Boy Route

Box Elder

Elder, Montana 59521

Phone: (406) 395-4478 or 395-4727

Name of Program: Tribal Social Services

Services Offered: headstart, child protection team, foster care, counseling to youth and families.

State: North Dakota

Reservation: Fort Berthold

Tribe: Mandan, Arikara, Hidatsa

Address: BIA - Fort Berthold Agency
Box 370
Newtown, N.D. 58763

Phone: (701) 627-3731

Name of Program: BIA - Social Services

Services Offered: Head start, WIC, foster care, counseling.

State: North Dakota

Reservation: Standing Rock

Tribe: Standing Rock Sioux

Address: BIA- Fort Yates Agency
Fort Yates, N.D. 58358

Phone: (701) 854-3431

Name of Program: BIA - Social Services

Services Offered: General assistance, foster care, head start, youth ranch program.

State: North Dakota

Reservation: Turtle Mountain

Tribe: Chippewa

Address: Tribal Social Services
Belcourt, N.D. 58316

Phone: (701) 477-6147

Name of Program: Turtle Mountain Social Services

Services Offered: Permanency Planning, ICWA, foster care and adoption, counseling interagency team approach, protective services, coordinated with county department of social services, interdisciplinary team approach.

State: North Dakota

Reservation: Fort Tolten

Tribe: Devil's Lake Sioux

Address: BIA - Social Services
Fort Tolten, N.D. 58335

Phone: (701) 766-4404

Name of Program: BIA - Social Services

Services Offered: General assistance, ICWA, WIC, group home, foster home, counseling.

State: South Dakota

Reservation: Cheyenne River

Tribe: Cheyenne River Sioux

Address: BIA - Social Services
Eagle Butte, S.D. 57625

Phone: (605) 964-8998

Name of Program: BIA - Social Services

Services Offered: ICWA, foster care, head start, day care, general assistance, TWEP, PET, counseling services, coordinates with tribal services.

State: South Dakota

Reservation: Crow Creek

Tribe: Sioux

Address: PO Box 657
Fort Thompson
S.D. 57337

Phone: (605) 245-2311

Name of Program: Red Horse Lodge, Youth and Family Services

Services Offered: foster care, child welfare, general assistance, group home for youth.

State: South Dakota

Reservation: Flandreau

Tribe: Flandreau and Sioux

Address: Box 283

Flandreau, S.D.

Phone: (605) 997-3841

Name of Program:

Services Offered: School - prevention of drop outs for youth, JOM program.

State: South Dakota

Reservation: Lower Brule

Tribe: Sioux

Address: Child Protection Services

Lower Brule,

South Dakota, 57548

Phone: (605) 973-5400

Name of Program: Child Protection Services

Services Offered: foster care, prevention of child abuse and neglect by community education, counseling of parents.

State: South Dakota

Reservation: Pine Ridge

Tribe: Oglala Sioux

Address: Pine Ridge Agency
Pine Ridge
South Dakota 57770

Phone: (605) 867-5121

Name of Program: BIA - Social Services

Services Offered: Permanency Planning and programs, foster care, adoption, day care, head start, parent and child center, general assistance, group home for boys.

State: South Dakota

Reservation: Rosebud

Tribe: Sioux

Address: Box 399 - BIA
Mission,
South Dakota 57555

Phone: (605) 856-2375

Name of Program: Tribal Social Services

Services Offered: foster care, head start, child protective services, counseling,

State: South Dakota

Reservation: Sisseton

Tribe: Sisseton - Wahpeton Sioux

Address: SWST/Child Protection Program
R.R.2
Sisseton, S.D. 57262

Phone: (605) 698-3992

Name of Program: SWST/Child Protection Program

Services Offered: family services, prevention services, foster care, licensed adoptive homes, community development.

State: South Dakota

Reservation: Yankton

Tribe: Yankton Sioux

Address: BIA
PO Box 577
Wagner, S.D. 57380

Phone: (605) 384-3651

Name of Program: BIA

Services Offered: General assistance, child welfare services, foster home and a group home and a CP team and Indian Child Welfare

State: Utah

Reservation: Goshute Indian Reservation

Tribe: Goshute Tribe

Address: c/o Goshute Tribe
Tooele, Utah 84720

Phone: N/A

Name of Program: Tribal and State Social Services

Services Offered: The Goshute Indian Reservation contracts services with the Tooele Dept. of Human Services in Tooele, Utah. Also this reservation contracts services with the state of Nevada.

State: Utah

Reservation: Navajo Nation

Tribe: Navajo

Address: c/o Department of Social Services
Window Rock, Arizona 86515

Phone: (602) 871-4941

Name of Program: Department of Social Welfare

Services Offered: comprehensive social services ICWA, foster care, adoption, general assistance

State: Utah

Reservation: Skull Valley Indian Reservation

Tribe: Skull Valley

Address: Tooele Dept. of Human Services
47 S. Main St.
Tooele, Utah 84074

Phone: (801) 882-5550

Name of Program: Social Services

Services Offered: Food Assistance, Emergency assistance, Financial assistance, Medical assistance, Public Health; Women, Infants, and Children, Family Counseling and Intervention and Mental Health services at the Counseling and Intervention Center, Tribal social services are coordinated with the county system.

State: Utah

Reservation: Paiute Indian Reservation

Tribe: Paiute Tribe

Address: Tribal Social Services
600 N. 100 E.
Cedar City, Utah 84720

Phone: (801) 586-5914

Name of Program: Tribal Social Services

Services Offered: General Assistance, Foster Care, Parent Training, and the Indian Child Welfare Act Program.

State: Utah

Reservation: Uintah and Ouray Indian

Tribe: Ute Tribe and Skull Valley Tribe

Address: Ute Indian Tribal Soc. Services
Ft. Duschene, Utah 84026
PO Box 190

Phone: (801) 722-5141

Name of Program: Tribal Social Services

Services Offered: Counseling to children and families and assistance to families for referrals and recommendations of existing services. They also have a worker who works with the Indian Child Welfare

State: Wyoming

Reservation: Wind River

Tribe: Arapahoe and Shoshone

Address: BIA - Social Services

Wind River Agency

Fort Washakai, Wyoming 82514

Phone: (307) 255-8357

Name of Program: BIA - Social Services

Services Offered: foster care, general assistance, coordinates with Freemont county child protection team, counseling.

LIST OF INDIAN CENTERS

COLORADO

1. Denver Indian Health Board
   2035 E. 18th Street
   Denver, CO. 80206
   (303) 388-2451

2. Denver Native Americans United, Inc.
   4407 Morrison Road
   Denver, CO 80219
   (303) 936-2688

3. Native American Urban Transition Program
   548 S. Lincoln Street
   Denver, CO 80209
   (303) 777-5151 or 777-9290

MONTANA

1. Ananconda Indian Alliance
   209 East Park
   Anaconda, Montana 59711
   (406) 563-3459

2. Billings American Indian Council
   PO Box 853
   Billings, Montana 59103
   (406) 657-6056

3. Helena Urban Indian Alliance
   436 North Jackson
   Helena, Montana 59601
   (406) 442-9334

4. Indian Development and Education Alliance
   PO Box 726
   Miles City, Montana 59301
   (406) 232-6112

5. Missoula Qua Qui Corporation
   401 West Railroad
   Missoula, Montana 59801
   (406) 329-3905

6. Montana United Indian Association
   846 Front Street
   Helena, Montana 59601
   (406) 443-5350

7. Native American Center
   Health Program
   PO Box 2612
   Great Falls, Montana 59403 (406) 761-3165

8. North American Indian Alliance
   12 East Galena
   Butte, Montana 59701
   (406) 723-4361

SOUTH DAKOTA

1. American Indian Services Corp.
   100 West 6th Street
   Sioux Falls, S.D. 57102
   (605) 334-4060

2. South Dakota Urban Council
   331 1/2 S. Pierre St.
   Pierre, S.D. 57051
   (605) 224-8841

UTAH

1. Salt Lake Indian Health Center
   508 E. South Temple #219
   Salt Lake City, Utah 84102
   (801) 487-2216

REGIONAL B.I.A. AREA OFFICES

Aberdeen

Agencies: Ft. Berthold, Ft. Totten, Turtle Mountain, Standing Rock, Sisseton, Yankton, Cheyenne River, Lower Brule, Crow Creek, Rosebud, Pine Ridge.

115 4th Ave. S.E.
Aberdeen, S.D. 57401
(605) 225-0250 Ext. 343

Albuquerque

Agencies: Jicarilla, Mescalero, Northern Pueblos, Ramah, Southern Pueblos, Ute Mountain, Zuni, and Southern Ute.

5301 Central Ave., N.E.
POBox 8327
Albuquerque, NM 87108
(505) 766-3170

Billings

Agencies: Blackfeet, Crow, Flathead, Ft. Belknap, Ft. Peck, Northern Cheyenne, Rocky Boy's and Wind River.

316 N. 26th St.
Billings, Montana 59101
(406) 657-6315

Navajo

Agencies: Chinle, Eastern Navajo, Ft. Defiance, Shiprock and Tuba City.

PO Box 1060
Window Rock, AZ 86515
(602) 871-5151

In Region VIII there are several tribes with child welfare programs geared to keeping children in their families and helping children with foster care when necessary due to family stresses and problems.

There are tribes which are comfortable with using Indian terms for complex forms of service thus indicating a strong tribal identity and security. Such an example is the Rocky Boy school which has given the Center native terms then translated the words:

1. Child Welfare

   Ah-wah-si-sah-k kah-kah-wah-we-yi -mi-chi-k
   ᐊᐊ·ᓯᓂᐟᑲᑲ·ᐁᐧᐃ·ᐊᒥᒋᐟ

2. Extended Family

   e-ah-yah-ni-s-ke-wah-ko-to-wi-n
   ᐁᐊᐳᓂᓀᐟᐊ·ᑯᐧᐃ·ᑎᐣ

3. Adoption

   Kah-tah-pah-ko-mi-t
   ᑲᑕᐸᑯᒥᐟ

4. Love

   Sah-ki-e-to-wi-n ᓴᑭᐁᑎᐧᐃᐣ

The Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead reservation have also translated native words for social services. These words give an understanding to their tribal values and culture and the value of children and the extended family to the community. This is a list of words from this community:

NEW WORD	SALISH-FLATHEAD	TRANSLATION
child welfare	q̓l n̓xʷəlxʷiltis sḵʷḵʷiṁəlt	the future life of a child
extended family	stṁel̓is	relatives down to the 4th and 5th generation

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love	xmenč	love, like
adoption	i sck̓ʷul̓stəmč?ē	my made daughter
	i sck̓ʷul̓sqʷsē?	my made son

(this occurs when a person takes a child to be his or her child after the death or when a person is no longer able to be a parent to that child. This also works when a child would say that this parent is my made parent.

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There are tribal codes and regulations used by the tribes in developing their programs. The Family Resource Center has many of the tribal codes but one such example is the Chippewa Cree Tribal Code. The tribe states that the purpose of the code is to protect and care for their "most important" resource the young people in their tribe. This code is and example of foster care licensure and can be read for ideas and strong philosophy to ensure love, protection of children of the tribe. Many tribes lhave implemented aspects of the Indian Child Welfare Act into their code regarding placement choices.

1. THE PURPOSE OF THE CODE

1.1 The young people of the Chippewa Cree Tribe of the Rocky Boy's Reservation are the Tribe's most important resource and their welfare is of paramount importance to the Chippewa Cree Tribe.

1.2 It is important that the young people of the Chippewa Cree Tribe receive, preferably in their own homes, the care and guidance needed to prepare them to take their places as adult members of the Chippewa Cree Tribe.

1.3 This court shall protect the child's interest by choosing a course of action which leasts restricts the child's freedom and is consistent with the safety and interests of the Chippewa Cree Tribe.

1.4 The Chippewa Cree Tribe needs a recognized Children's Court System to insure that off-reservation courts will be willing to return young people of the Tribe to the reservation for care and guidance.

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CHIPPEWA CREE TRIBAL FOSTER HOME LICENSING STANDARDS 1981

SECTION 1: FOSTER FAMILY HOMES MUST BE LICENSED BY THE AGENCY DESIGNATED TO THE CHIPPEWA CREE TRIBAL BUSINESS COMMITTEE FOR THE PLACEMENT OF CHILDREN.

Foster family homes should be licensed by an agency, duly authorized by the Chippewa Cree Tribal Business Committee for placement.

SECTION 2: CHILD PLACING AGENCY TO PLACE CHILDREN AND PROVIDE SUPERVISION.

Any agency recognized by the Chippewa Cree Tribal Business Committee for the purpose of placing children.

SECTION 3: PRIORITY TO RESERVATION LICENSED FOSTER HOMES:

The duly authorized child placement agency will provide appropriate care for children in its legal custody and will place children in licensed foster homes, priority shall be given to Tribally licensed homes.

SECTION 4: SPECIFICATIONS OF LICENSE.

The foster home license must bear the name of the licensed foster parents, specify the number and type of children who may be cared for at any time, indicate the kind of service authorized, and state any other provisions of licensure. The license shall be valid only to the extent to which such conditions are complied with. The license pertains to the foster family and to the residence in which they are living at the date of license is required.

SECTION 5: LICENSE FOR SPECIFIC CHILDREN WHEN HOMES DO NOT MEET ALL STANDARDS:

A foster home which does not meet all the provisions of the established standards of foster family care shall be licensed for care of a specific child/children only. This refers to situations where the best interests of a specific child or children are served by placement in this home, rather than in any other licensed foster family home. The provisions of licensing for specific children is expected to be used only in rare instances and is in no way intended to circumvent the standards for licensing foster homes.

SECTION 6: APPLICATIONS FOR LICENSURE:

Applicants for a license to provide foster family care to children shall make inquiry as the procedure for obtaining a license from the Chippewa Cree Tribal Social Services Program. The application will be given on request. The application for foster care licensure must be signed by the applicants if they wish to proceed with their inquiry.

SECTION 7: STUDY AND APPROVAL OF FOSTER FAMILY CARE APPLICATION

The study of the foster family care applicants and their home shall be made by the tribally designated child foster care licensing agency. The child placing agency may require training courses for basic family foster care. It will be expected that when and if such training is arranged that foster parents will participate in such training sessions. The decision relative to license a foster family home by the tribally designated child licensing agency is dependent on the study of the foster family care applicants and their homes will be reflected by written recommendation to the Chairman, Chippewa Cree Tribal Business Committee. Final approval and issuance of certificate of license is the responsibility of the Chairman, Chippewa Cree Tribal Business Committee.

SECTION 8: MAINTAINING ADEQUATE STANDARDS OF LICENSE:

A foster home holding a license shall report to the licensing agency any changes in circumstances, make up, or residence of the foster family, at the time they occur to determine if the changes necessitates a change in the license or require the license to be revoked. In the event a license is revoked, it shall be preceded by a full discussion of conditions or situations which necessitates the action.

SECTION 9: RENEWAL OF LICENSE.

Renewal of license will be based on the approval of the tribally licensing agency dependent upon the evaluation of the foster family and its care of children during the past year submitted by the child placing agency. A medical report on the foster family may be requested by the agency if the report indicates such is necessary or desirable.

SECTION 10: REFUSAL TO LICENSE FOR/OR ISSUANCE OF PROVISIONAL LICENSE:

The tribally designated agency which has undertaken the foster home study of the applicants for foster family care, may refuse to approve the home. The refusal must be based on evaluation, substantiated by facts, showing that the foster homes does not meet the standards of foster family care. Applicants may reapply showing that the necessary changes have been made, and they may be reconsidered. A foster home which has been determined to be inadequate to provide foster care may be granted a provision license with the understanding efforts will be made to meet requirements.

SECTION 11: REVOCATION OF FOSTER CARE LICENSE

The foster care license may be revoked for just cause, in which case just cause must be substantiated by facts and must be in writing.

SECTION 12: FOSTER HOME TO GIVE NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL OR LICENSURE:

The foster parent is required to notify the agency of his intention to withdraw his/her home from licensure.

SECTION 13: PROCEDURE FOR APPEAL WHEN APPLICATION FOR LICENSE IF DENIED:

Any person who has made formal application for a child caring license and who is dissatisfied with the decision which is made regarding his application will have an opportunity to persent his view personally to the Tribal Welfare Committee. This may be accomplished by requesting such a hearing in writing to the Chairperson of the Tribal Welfare Committee.

I. PLACENENT OF INDIAN CHILDREN:

No out of home placement for an Indian child, except in emergencies shall be recommended by the agency designated by the Chippewa Cree Tribal Business Committee until documented efforts to provide remedial services and rehabilitative programs designed to prevent the break-up of the Indian family have been unseccessful and unless the child's continued custody is likely to result in serious emotional or physical damage to the child.

In making any out-of-town placement of an Indian child, a preference shall be given, in the absence of good cause to the contrary, to a placement with:

(1) A member of the child's extended family.
(2) A member of the child's tribe.
(3) Other Indian families.
(4) Non-Indian families.

Sibling groups shall not be separated except in cases of unusual emergency. When this does occur, immediate efforts must be made to reunite the group.

All children shall receive complete medical and/or pediatric examination within seventytwo hours of placement. Responsibility rests with the placement agency.

Emergency placements are handled through the Tribal Court and Law and Order officials, who, in the course of their work, secure temporary care of abused, neglected, abandoned or delinquent children.

II. PERSONAL QUALIFICATION OF APPLICANTS:

1. Foster parents shall be selected on the basis of having personal characteristics and ability to develop relationships which will make it possible for them to undertake and perform the responsibilities required in caring for children, particularly those who are in foster care, in providing continuity of care, and in working with the tribally authorized service providers in the capacity to help the foster children to be returned to their natural parents home, if at all possible.

2. A physical handicap in either foster parent which does not interfere with their ability to give adequate physical care to a foster child nor bar this person from foster parenthood. The meaning of handicap to the individual shall be evaluated, as to how it affects his personality and whether it may have significance to a foster child.

3. While it is desirable that there be both a father and mother person in the home, single parent families shall not be excluded. This person shall be evaluated by the tribal authorized agency in meeting the needs of the children, harmonious relationships among family members are essential in any foster home.

4. No person whose presence would be detrimental to the child shall be in the household.

5. Foster parent(s) shall provide adequate substitute care when they are away from home.

III. FAMILY COMPOSITION:

1. The composition of the foster family will be taken into account in assessing whether the child's needs will be met by such a placement. The presence of other children in the home, either the foster parents can or other foster children, and related or unrelated adults, shall be taken into account as they may be affected by or have an effect upon the foster children.

2. Number of children in the family shall be determined by the stamina capacities, and skills of the foster parents, the physical accomodations in the home, and the effect upon the equilibrium of the family. At the discretion of the placement agency, special consideration may be given when placing siblings into a foster home that already has children though foremost attention must be directed to maintaining the same stability and equilibrium of the foster family unit. No family shall be allowed to care for more than two children under the age of two years. No more than six (6) children shall be placed in one foster home, unless authorized by Tribal Court Order.

III. FAMILY COMPOSITION (continued)

3. Foster parents should be entitled to participate in any welfare assistance program. This should not jeopardize a person's eligibility to participate in a foster parent program.

4. The age of foster parents should be considered in relation to their physical enery, flexibility and ability to care for foster children. The social and emotional maturity and stability of the parent shall be primary consideration in evaluating the foster parent's application.

5. The foster parents shall take in consideration the foster children's religious background. They should encourage and respect the spiritual beliefs of the children and so far as practicable, hold the same spiritual beliefs as the children's parents.

6. Physical examinations for each foster family household should be taken at the time of application for foster care licensure, to ensure that the foster child will not be exposed to any communicable diseases. A yearly tuberculin test is required. Proof of physical examinations shall be available at request. Foster family members shall also show proof of physical examinations upon yearly renewal of license. The failure to show proof of physical examinations shall be grounds for denial of license and/or refusal to renew license.

7. No foster family shall have more than six children at placement at one time unless the children are siblings (members of the same immediate family).

IV. PHYSICAL STANDARDS FOR FOSTER CARE:

Foster family homes should be located within the interior boundaries of the Rocky Boy's Indian Reservation. They shall be located where school, church, recreation and medical and other community facilities are reasonably accessible.

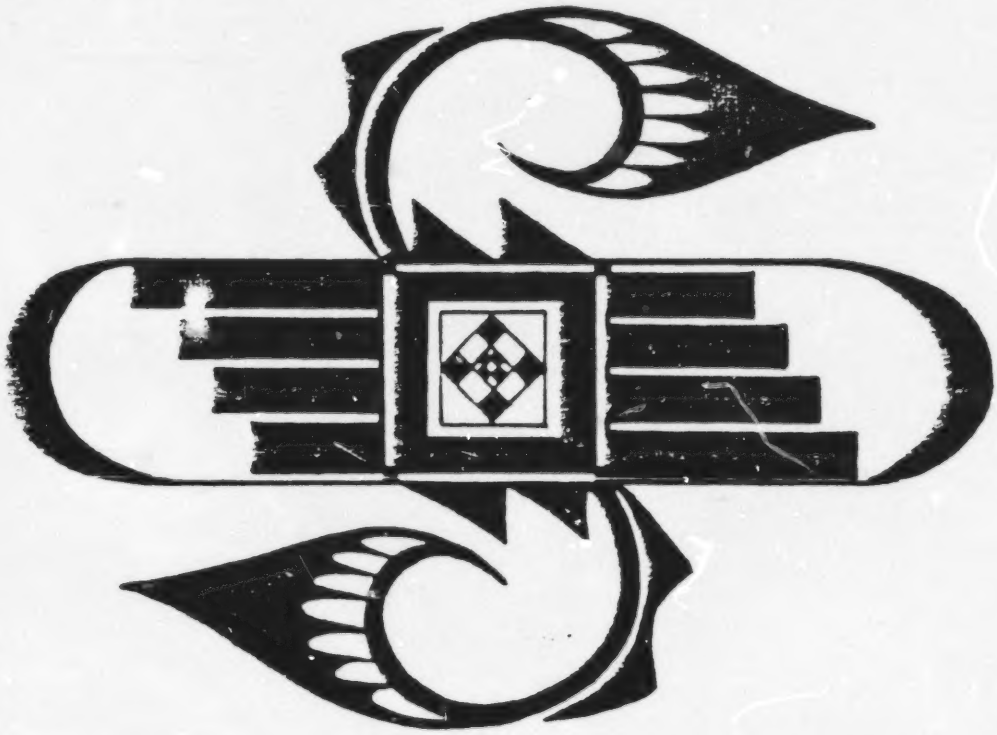
Physical facilities and health and safety standards shall be evaluated on the basis of the following:

(a) Suitable housing
(b) Adequate light
(c) Safe heating
(d) Proper ventilation
(e) Clean water, and sanitary bath and toilet facilties
(f) Clean bed and bedding

At the time of evaluation, if any of the above mentioned items are not provided for, it will be the responsibility of the Foster Care providers to ensure that the minimum requirements are met.

Another fine example in Region VIII is the Sisseton-Wahpeton Sioux Tribal Program. Their Child Protection Program was used as a case study in a research and demonostration project. This report is shown in this paper (samples) and can be used as a model for other tribes in this region.

The CHILD PROTECTION PROGRAM



A Case Study of
A Social Services Research and Demonstration Project
Implemented By

The Sisseton-Wahpeton Sioux Tribe

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DISCUSSION OF PROGRAMMATIC COMPONENTS

A number of contextual and structural factors contributed to the effectiveness of the CPP, including:

- A tribal commitment to operating the program. This commitment was amply demonstrated by the efforts of the Human Services Board and Inter-agency Coordinating Committee to fulfil some of the functions of a child placing agency, even before there were any funds available for this purpose.

- Cooperation from other agencies. While the juriadictional problems with the state have not been resolved, the state's involvement included a number of positive elements; specifically, the state contracted with the project; the state waived some foster home licensing standards; and the state showed interest in the program as a possible prototype for other tribally-operated child placing agencies. The BIA cooperated by providing funds for the caseworker position.

- Programmatic components encompassing all of the functions which should be performed by a comprehensive child placement agency: recruitment and training of foster care parents; placement services; and family support services (including both maintenance and reunification).

- Placement of the project within the appropriate tribal department.

- Ongoing collaboration between the project director and the departmental director.

- The active involvement of an advisory committee or board, comprised of tribal members, at the departmental level; i.e., close enough to the project function to be fully aware of what is going on.

- A professionally qualified and committed director, who provided substantial support and supervision for his staff. Ideally, the director should be a tribal member, in

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addition to possessing the needed professional qualifications. At Sisseton-Wahpeton, however, the director's commitment, as well as his skills, resulted in his acceptance, by both his staff and his board.

- Qualified Indian staff, appropriately assigned and retained for a substantial period of time. As noted, all staff, except the director, were tribal members and all were well-qualified for the positions they held. Further, all were with the project since its inception.

The foregoing constitute key ingredients for effectively managing and delivering child protective services.

The delivery of direct child welfare services to clients is focused on three major goals, as follows:

- Maintenance of children in the family. Services directed toward this goal are focused on assisting families "at risk" of losing their children to maintain the family intact.

- Reunification of the family. Services directed toward this goal are focused on reuniting children, already in substitute care, with their families.

- Placement of children in Indian homes. Services directed toward this goal are focused on placing children in Indian homes who cannot be maintained in their own families.

The services offered by the CPP are comprehensive of a child welfare agency, including: investigation and assessment, counseling, legal advocacy, temporary shelter, pre-placement and post-placement activities, securing services for clients from other agencies, emergency assistance, and transportation.

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ADOPTIVE HOMES

The tribal juvenile code recognizes two forms of adoption which have been customary among tribal members historically.

- Ecagwaya, or tradional adoption* according to tribal custom, involves the placement of a child, by his natural parent(s), with another family. There is no court involvement in the placement. After a period of two years, the court will recognize that the adoptive parents in a traditional adoption have certain rights over a child even though parental rights of the natural parents have never been terminated.

- Open adoption refers to adoptive placements made through the court in which most, but not all, parental rights have been terminated. This allows the court to ensure that an older child who has established bonds of affection with his natural parents is able to maintain a relationship with his natural parents while at the same time becoming part of another family.

Ecagwaya does not require any court involvement or approval of the home. Both "open" and "closed" adoptions, however, do require court involvement in the placement as well as a home study of the adoptive home by the CPP.

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*Ecagwaya means to take a child in and raise as one's own.

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First Session

- General explanation of Foster Care
- Commitment required of Foster Care parents
- The role of Foster Care parents
- Foster Care payments
- Decision and request for home study

Second Session

- Discussion of child development
- Types of problems presented by Foster Care children (e.g., acting out, "honeymoon period")
- Role of Foster Care parents in relation to Child Protection Program
- Discipline
- Impact of Foster Care children on the whole family (e.g., resentments, jealousy of Foster Care parents' own children)

Third Session

- Importance and meaning of Indian Foster Care children to the Sisseton-Wahpeton Tribe (e.g., return of Foster children to their natural family)
- Visits by Foster Care children to natural family
- Visits by natural family to Foster Care home
- Reporting to Child Protection Program (e.g., illness, special needs, problems, etc.)
- Mechanics of billing and payment

Fourth Session

- Film and wrap-up
- Questions and comments

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While no training is required, a series of four home visits by the foster care and adoptive worker was required for completion of the approval process.

First Home Visit

This focuses on meeting with the entire family to assess if there is a real commitment to adopting a child. Information is also collected on the husband and wife's background, marriage relationship, family lifestyle, and religious, ethical, and social values.

Second Home Visit

During this visit, the Foster Care and Adoptive worker meets with the mother and father separately to collect information and assess parenting attitudes, experiences, skills, and attitudes toward adoption. Health forms and reference forms are left with the family to be mailed in.

Third Home Visit

During the third visit, the worker meets separately with any children in the adoptive home to assess their attitudes toward adoption. A list of open-ended questions designed to reveal family attitudes and problems is left with the family to be completed by separate members and mailed in.

Fourth Home Visit

This visit is a wrap-up session and includes a discussion of any potential problems identified.

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SERVICES AVAILABLE INCLUDE:

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1. **Family Services** - to help parents and children work out problems which may exist within the family.

2. **Preventative Services** - to help families where abuse or neglect are problems to more effectively care for their children.

3. **Protective Services** - to help insure that any child who is abused or neglected is properly cared for 24 hours a day.

4. **Referral Services** - to help families and children find the agency which will best meet their needs (i.e. alcohol program, mental health center, P.H.S., Juvenile Intervention Center, etc.).

5. **Placement Services** - to help insure that there are families available for every child that might need to be away from his family for a short or long period of time.

6. **Adoptive Services** - to help provide a permanent home within the community for every child who is unable to live with his or her own family.

7. **Community Development Services** - to help each district promote stability in family life and help develop resources within each district to meet the needs of its families, adolescents and children.

To be successful in meeting these goals we must have your help — for success takes both an awareness and a commitment from each of us to meeting these needs.

WE ASK THAT YOU —

1. Come in and work with us if you are having problems within your family.

2. Refer families, youth or children who you believe have problems.

3. If you know of any child that has been abused or neglected, make a referral.

4. Become involved in activities with families in your district.

5. Open your home for foster care or adoption.

This logo was developed by Mr. Robert Pe internationally known for his relevant art work many different mediums. The father/mother a infant scene symbolizes our Program's co mitment to work towards keeping famil together through the services listed herein.

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SUMMARY:

The purpose of this listing is to consolidate the information on tribes and their programs on child welfare so each tribe and state within the region can use it for cross education and information sharing on their various programs.